



IOWA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Richard L. Bruner
CHAIR

Kathleen Kohorst
Kelly Dolan Lange

Timothy L. Lapointe
Mary Sellers

Mary Mosiman
Robert von Wolfradt

RIC LUMBARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GOVERNOR TERRY E. BRANSTAD LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KIM REYNOLDS

Iowa Telecommunications & Technology Commission

Grimes State Office Building, 1st Floor

400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319

August 17, 2016

To ensure the most efficient use of State resources, the August 17, 2016 ITTC meeting was held via telephonic conference pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8. A telephonic conference also ensured more Commissioners were able to participate in the meeting and reduced the risk of delays caused by weather or other impediments to travel. The meeting was accessible to members of the public through attendance via Phone Bridge.

I. Roll Call:

- **Commissioners Present:**

Richard Bruner, Chair (on-site)
Kathleen Kohorst, Member (phone)
Mary Sellers, Member (phone)
Timothy Lapointe, Member (phone)
Kelly Dolan Lange, Member (phone)

- **Commissioners Absent:**

Robert von Wolfradt, Ex-Officio
Mary Mosiman, Ex-Officio

- **Iowa Communications Network Staff Present:**

Ric Lumbard, Executive Director
Mark Johnson, Chief Administration Officer
Philip Groner, Chief Operating Officer
Deb Evans, Chief Financial Officer
Jessica Jensen, Executive Administrator (Recorder/Minutes)
Randy Goddard, Business Services Bureau Manager
Scott Pappan, Engineering Bureau Manager
Mike Cruise, Finance Bureau Manager
Dave Marley, Operations Bureau Manager
Lori Larsen, Communications Lead

- **Guests:**

Jennifer Acton, Legislative Services Agency (LSA)
Sean Hanson, Iowa Network Services

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Jay Peterson, Chair, State Library of Iowa

II. Call to Order

- Chair Bruner called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. It was noted that a quorum of members were present for the meeting.

III. Approval of July 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

- Chair Bruner requested a motion to approve the July 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Lange moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sellers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kohorst – Yes
Commissioner Lange – Yes
Commissioner Lapointe – Yes
Commissioner Sellers – Yes
Commissioner Bruner – Yes

IV. Old Business:

FirstNet Update – Ric Lumbard

Ric Lumbard attended the FirstNet Quality of Service, Priority and Preemption Regional workshop on August 16 in Osceola, Iowa. The meeting was conducted for the QPP (Quality of Service Priority and Preemption) FEMA region. Each state within the FEMA region was represented as it was a work study. FirstNet listened to the potential users regarding how the network will be prioritized during heavy usage. FirstNet will also involve commercial aspects as secondary users; processes will be discussed regarding the processes that cause the secondary users to be preempted.

- The FirstNet Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement meeting will be held on September 7, 2016. This process will be similar to the BTOP (Broadband Technology Opportunities Program) environmental studies that were required for ICN's federal broadband grant. The same processes apply to the FirstNet prime vendor deploying

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radio networks and radio towers; anything additional that is not part of an existing infrastructure.

- On August 25, the FirstNet Public Private Partnership meeting will be held in the Grimes State Office Building. Panelists will be on hand to answer questions, a brief presentation will be shown, and an open forum will be held during the remainder of the time.
- The SPOC (State Point of Contact) meeting is scheduled for the week of November 14, in Phoenix, Arizona.
- Director Lumbard applauded the ICN FirstNet staff work group on all the time and effort they put forth with the tribal outreach in the state. The State of Iowa is ahead of schedule for leading those processes.

The Opt-in/Opt-out discussions are on-going and the FirstNet Task Force continues to monitor other states and the work group is attentive to all the discussions currently going on as the situation will be continually monitored.

COMMENTS:

Bruner: It appears that the BTOP experience the ICN gained will serve us well as we engage with the tribal areas.

ICN Core Update – Ric Lumbard

During the InterConNEXT 2016 Event, Director Lumbard verbally communicated publically the future direction of the ICN. The ICN has a significant amount of unfinished bandwidth, meaning the potential that can be converted to bandwidth. The ICN currently has a core network that can operate up to 40 GB per degree off any location on our core, which is the current IP (Internet Protocol) backbone. We are keeping that, however, the ICN will need to rise up additional capacity to the core that is flexible and an interconnecting ability of 200GB. The ICN will have capacity of 100 GB minimally and 200 GB maximum per degree on the locations. ICN has a solid financial and technological plan so the core will be able to go up to 200 GB per degree between the core locations on the network. This is significant because it provides our customers bandwidth when needed, as well as a flexible control mechanism on the top core layer. ICN will maintain the 40 GB IP until all customers have fully transitioned to the higher capacity IP core. There are some classifications of equipment that will be sunset, which will give the ICN the ability to install the new flexible core and put a flexible mechanism control surface on that process, so we can begin to convert our

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customers. We have not done a major upgrade since BTOP. This allows ICN to go all the way up collapsing layer two and layer three on a new infrastructure. We feel this is the best use of the State's resources and will make it more user friendly.

COMMENTS:

Bruner: Ric would you explain how the fabric works so the Commission has a better understanding of it?

Lumbard: A desk top computer has many different pieces to it; a hard drive, cards, memory, a processor, even a different apparatus attached to it. It has a common operating system so it is not necessary speaking to all the individual operating equipment. Imagine new software requests could be made for circuit provisions by making one decision to the operating system and all the equipment functions accordingly. Telecommunications has not advanced in that type of flexible control surface. There are many boxes and types of boxes that engineers currently need to log into daily, to correct issues. As you would imagine that could take a significant amount of time. With the new software requests, this could be made for circuit provisions by the click of a button. Customers will be able to request a bandwidth increase resulting in a quick experience and even enable the customer to have a certain level of interface in their hands. What this fabric does is create a common control surface separate from the control center. Not only will the ICN be able to provision our circuits and Broadband services in a fast manner, this would also allow the ICN to have a control surface that the user could have, possibly having the customer request a change in their Bandwidth which could be accomplished by an administrative portal. This new fabric creates a common control surface separate from the data plane.

Bruner: Thank you for the excellent explanation. This is quite revolutionary for the telecom industry. I am pleased that the ICN is on the forefront of all of the changes and that the Leadership team is addressing this issue.

Lumbard: There is an industry sector in the telecom industry that has experience regarding this. Some companies have already done this such as Vonage. You can log into your account and make changes to your account without needing a sales connection. The customer will be interfacing directly with the Network and not with a customer service representative.

V. New Business

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- **Finance Update – Mike Cruise**

JULY FINANCIALS

- Fiscal Year 2016 records are being completed. The official State Book Close date is August 31, 2016, so the 2016 Reports will be available at the September 15, 2016 ITTC Meeting.
- Fiscal Year 2017 reports were ran with the new report style and expense allocation method, however, unexpected results were received and not acceptable for distribution. The process needs to be reviewed and adjusted in order for it to work correctly.
- The numbers were suitable, however, the details for cost center was unexpected. Those figures will be reviewed before reports can be suitable for distribution.
- Operating Margin (which is more than a Gross Margin) simply is revenues minus direct expenses.
- Cash from Operations after equipment expenditures \$146,734.00 due to lag time and annual expenses is common in July.

- **InterConNEXT Update – Ric Lumbard**

InterConNEXT was held on August 2 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny. KCRG covered a story of the 200GB broadband lift.

Main topics of the event were:

1. **200GB:** The ICN is utilizing its robust bandwidth potential to establish a new 200GB broadband core. We will keep the existing 40GB core running also and in parallel.
2. **FLEXIBILITY:** This additional broadband bandwidth will have numerous fast & flexible features, including cyber security options for our customers across the state.
3. **SDN: Software Defined Networks:** The ICN will utilize SDN and virtualized services on this new broadband platform to provide near instant feature access.
4. **CYBER:** Cyber security was a major focus and the ICN provided 10 complimentary Cyber evaluations to the following customers:
 - Clarinda Regional Health Center
 - Iowa Valley Community College District
 - East Union Community Schools
 - Johnston Public Library, City of Johnston

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- Independence Mental Health Institute
- Audubon County Memorial Hospital
- Mercy Medical Center
- Army National Guard
- Kirkwood Community College
- Central College

5. WIRELESS: ICNs WI-FI and microwave wireless services are being tested at speeds greater than 1GB.

6. MVS: The ICN managed voice service was featured as a managed cost savings to our voice customers.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY: A public safety demonstration was held, putting on display NG911, new LMR (Land Mobile Radio) system and the W.I.S.E. (Wi-Fi Internet for School Emergencies) school safety pilot project. We had great cooperation from DPS.

8. ATTENDEES: We had over 100 customers and technological stakeholders in attendance representing Education, Public Safety, Government and Healthcare. Private sector partners, providers and carriers were also in attendance.

2017: The next InterConNEXT event is scheduled for August 3, 2017.

COMMENTS:

Bruner: The InterConNEXT Summit was very professionally done. Everyone from the ICN who was involved in the summit did an excellent job. A realization that I became more aware from the summit was the surprising awareness of every call being made is subject to being hacked. This is a scary reality, and something to be conscious of.

• Video Rates – Randy Goddard

September is the time of year when the Commission approves the video rates. Last year the sunset date for MPEG to be cycled out of the Network was scheduled for June 30, 2018. The Commission approved a 25% increase in MPEG rates, to encourage users to move to the IP platform for video which was matched with a 25% decrease in that LightSpeed product. Those rates went into effect July 1, 2016. ICN is still waiting to see what the feedback will be due to it being early since the time of the rates were released. There has been a decrease in MPEG hours, so it looks like the strategy is working. The

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Community Colleges are the main users for MPEG services; DMACC (Des Moines Area Community College), NIACC (North Iowa Area Community College), and EICC (Eastern Iowa Community College). Hawkeye Community College and Kirkwood Community College have switched over to the LightSpeed product. 113 video sites are using the LightSpeed product.

Side note: We are currently looking at vendors who offer a managed video network. The ICN is looking for a vendor that can provide the services that the customers are used to. To continue to encourage the migration, I would recommend holding the rates of MPEG at the current level and an additional decrease of 25% of IP rates.

COMMENTS:

Bruner: Our three largest customers are still working off of the MPEG platform. Your recommendation is to hold the rate on the MPEG and lower the cost of the IP to further encourage customers to move to the IP products?

Goddard: Yes, that is correct.

Lapointe: Are you talking about video?

Lumbard: We converted Southwestern Community College and they maintained all their screens and rooms. It simply replaced the video codec. Indian Hills Community College converted 27 video rooms to the new LightSpeed product, and they kept all of their displays the same.

Pappan: This addresses the backside of the Network.

Bruner: From customer perception nothing changes?

Pappan: That is correct. They may have more features today than they previously did.

- **Signature Authorities – Mark Johnson**

A year ago the Commission approved the signature authorities for the ICN. Due to the expansion in executive leadership, ICN has adjusted the signature authority to shift the primary contracting officer duties from the COO (Chief Operating Officer) to the CAO (Chief Administration Officer). The COO is to serve as the Secondary Contracting Officer. The Executive Leadership will ask for approval at the next ITTC Meeting.

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COMMENTS:

Bruner: The commission will approve that at the next ITTC Meeting.

- **CPI Spending Limitation Adjustment – Mark Johnson**

Every year ICN reviews the CPI (Consumer Price Index) adjustment. Under Iowa Code section 8D.11, the ICN has a contract limitation amount and the agency cannot enter into contracts above that amount without approval from the Legislature and the Governor. In 2008, the contract limitation amount was initially set to \$2 million and we requested that the Legislature add language to allow for a CPI adjustment on an annual basis. This adjustment will be in effect September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017. The increase this year is just under \$23,000 to the total cap of \$2,317.698.80.

COMMENTS:

Lapointe: Is there going to be a point that we can keep this as a permanent amount so we will not need to continuously go through this process?

Johnson: It is a fairly easy adjustment to do. As you may recall given the changes in technology and the cost involved, I have given some thought to do that and I go back and forth whether or not the legislature would approve it. This does give us an opportunity to communicate with the industry as well as the legislature. We could discuss this issue, but I do believe there is some value in the communication.

Lapointe: Are other agencies subject to such a cap?

Johnson: No, this language is unique to our Code chapter. Most agencies are not going to have the opportunity to enter into these types of contracts.

VI. Other Business

COMMENTS:

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Bruner: The Governor recently released the State of Iowa Cybersecurity Strategy. The ICN plays an instrumental part in the cybersecurity initiative. Ric, would you please let the commission in on ICN's involvement with this?

Lumbard: Cyber Security – The Governor along with the OCIO (Office of Chief Information Officer) and Homeland Security released the State Cyber Security Strategy. Executive order 87 established a multi-agency partnership with the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Iowa National Guard, Department of Public Safety, Iowa Communications Network, and the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department. The order directs these agencies to develop a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy which addresses lifeline critical infrastructure, risk assessments, best practices, awareness training, public education and communication, collaboration, K-12 and higher education, data breach notifications, and incident response planning to protect the citizens of Iowa and Iowa businesses. The [press release](#) that happened was a public release of that document that provided the high level strategy of what the plan is for the State of Iowa.

Groner: There were recommendations made in the document. The ICN could be utilized for training opportunities, as well as using the ICN as a resource to respond in times of emergency.

Lumbard: This is not a tactical plan that was released to the public. All the agencies involved still have their Cyber Response plans and Tactical strategies.

Bruner: The Commission invited Sean Hanson to the meeting and wanted to welcome him. A former colleague, Sean is the CEO of Aureon Technology, the new name for Iowa Network Services.

Ric Lumbard: The ERC Fall Event is scheduled for Thursday, September 15 from 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM. At the American Legion Hall located at 2211 E. 42nd Street in Des Moines. The ITTC Commissioners will be our special guest. Food and fun will be provided.

VII. Adjournment

Commissioner Kohorst moved that the meeting be adjourned and Commissioner Lapointe seconded. The ITTC meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

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ATTESTED TO:

Richard Bruner, Chair, Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission

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